

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

---

1. (Amended) A method for modulating the output of an optically pumped, tunable VCSEL, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(1) optically pumping the VCSEL with a pump laser so as to cause the VCSEL to generate ~~an~~ a first output having an output power greater than zero; and

(2) modulating the output light power of the pump laser so as to modulate the carrier population in the VCSEL's active region, whereby to modulate the output of the VCSEL to a second output having an output power greater than zero.

2. (Original) A method for modulating the output of an optically pumped, tunable VCSEL, wherein said method comprises the steps of:

(1) optically pumping the VCSEL with a pump laser so as to cause the VCSEL to generate an output; and